

Draft Meeting Notes
LCR MSCP Steering Committee Conference Call
June 25, 2014

Attending Via Conference Call

Perri Benemelis	Dee Bradshaw	Evelyn Erlandsen
Lesley Fitzpatrick	Greg Garnet	Jennifer Haley
Jayne Harkins	David Johnson	Marsha Kennedy
Gary Kerr	Kurumi Kuroda	Bill Lamb
Jennifer McCloskey	Wade Noble	Larry Purcell
Carrie Ronning	Seth Shanahan	Laura Simonek
Jon Sjoberg	Ruth Valencia	Laura Vecerina
David Vigil		

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Introductions

The conference call was convened at 9:30 a.m. by Laura Vecerina. There were self-introductions of all attending. Vice-Chair Perri Benemelis chaired the meeting.

Review of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Laura Vecerina added two additional items, Underfunding and Planet Ranch. Lesley Fitzpatrick added status of species listings and critical habitat. The agenda was amended and approved.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

Approve April 23, 2014 Meeting Notes

The April 23, 2014 meeting notes were approved. (Moved by Bill Lamb, seconded by Jon Sjoberg and adopted by consensus)

WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

Final Implementation Report, FY2015 Work Plan and Budget, FY 2013 Accomplishment Report

Laura Vecerina provided an overview of the changes that were made to the Final Implementation Report from comments received at the May Work Group meeting. She noted that the final inflation rate had decreased from 1.360 to 1.358 thereby reducing required program contributions to \$37,399,320. The change in the inflation rate also resulted in adjustments to Work Tasks A1,

H1 and H2. The requested approval amount for the FY15 Work Plan is now \$34,801,732 which consists of \$28,701,732 in work tasks and a \$6,100,000 contribution to the land and water fund. Greg Garnett also noted that Table 1-10 had been revised to reflect current fish stocking numbers with footnotes explaining the changes.

Resolution 14-001 “Review and Recommendation FY2015 Work Plan and Budget, FY2013 Accomplishment Report”

“Move that the LCR MSCP Steering Committee approve, by consensus, the *Final Implementation Report, Fiscal Year 2015 Work Plan and Budget, Fiscal Year 2013 Accomplishment Report* for \$34,801,732 and encourage the LCR MSCP Program manager to submit the approved Final Implementation Report to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for consistency review.

(Moved by Jayne Harkins, seconded by Seth Shanahan, and approved by consensus)

UNDERFUNDING

Laura Vecerina noted that there had been a Work Group/Steering Committee conference call on May 28th to further discuss the underfunding issue. It was agreed that although the calculation error was inadvertent, the underfunding should be made up by the funding parties. It was also agreed that the underfunding payment should be applied to makeup underfunding in FY11 – FY14 in the Habitat Maintenance Fund and the Remedial Measures Fund and prepay the Remedial Measures Fund. She noted that Reclamation was still waiting on guidance from Department of Interior Solicitor’s to determine what inflation rate should be applied to the underfunding amount. She said that another conference call would be scheduled once that information was available.

PLANET RANCH

Laura noted that legislation had been introduced in the House (H 4924) and Senate (S 2503) which when passed would direct the Secretary of the Interior to enter into the Big Sandy River – Planet Ranch Water Rights Settlement Agreement. She noted that the Enforceability Date in the legislation was contingent on Steering Committee approval of the land and water acquisition for Planet Ranch. She said that all of the major issues had been resolved. She indicated that John Swett would be bringing the Planet Ranch transaction to the Steering Committee for approval at the October 22nd meeting. She noted that a draft program decision document would be available for review at the September Work Group meeting. It was requested that an outline of the deal points be sent out to the Steering Committee to better understand the components of the legislation.

SPECIES LISTINGS AND CRITICAL HABITAT DESIGNATIONS

Lesley Fitzpatrick noted that the final rule for the listing of the northern Mexican gartersnake should be coming out soon. She said that designation of critical habitat for the gartersnake was

still a few months out. She stated that they still didn't know when proposed critical habitat for yellow-billed cuckoo would be sent out for comment.

STEERING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

Laura noted that the next Work Group meeting will be scheduled in September and that the next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 22nd. Both meetings will be held in Las Vegas.

SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS

The Steering Committee took action on two items.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am